

Administering Vaccines to Adults: Dose, Route, Site, Needle Size, and Preparation

Vaccine	Dose	Route	Site	Needle Size	Vaccine Preparation
Tetanus, Diphtheria (Td) with Pertussis (Tdap)	0.5 mL	IM	Deltoid	22–25g, 1–2"	Shake vial vigorously to obtain a uniform suspension prior to withdrawing each dose. Inspect vaccine visually for particulate matter and/or discoloration prior to administration (whenever solution and container permit). If problems are noted (e.g., vaccine cannot be resuspended), the vaccine should not be administered.
Hepatitis A (HepA)	≤18 yrs.: 0.5 mL ≥19 yrs.: 1.0 mL	IM	Deltoid	22–25g, 1–2"	
Hepatitis B (HepB)	≤19 yrs.: 0.5 mL ≥20 yrs.: 1.0 mL	IM	Deltoid	22–25g, 1–2"	
HepA+HepB (Twinrix)	≥18 yrs.: 1.0 mL	IM	Deltoid	22–25g, 1–2"	
Influenza, trivalent inactivated (TIV)	0.5 mL	IM	Deltoid	22–25g, 1–2"	
Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPV)	0.5 mL	IM	Deltoid	22–25g, 1–2"	
		SC	Posterolateral upper arm	23–25g, 5/8–3/4"	
Meningococcal, conjugated (MCV4)	0.5 mL	IM	Deltoid	22–25g, 1–2"	Reconstitute just before using. Use only the diluent supplied with the vaccine. Inject the volume of the diluent shown on the diluent label into the vial of lyophilized vaccine and agitate to mix thoroughly. Withdraw and administer immediately after reconstitution or store reconstituted vaccine vial at 35–46°F (2–8°C). Note: for reconstituted meningococcal vaccine, use single-dose vial within 30 minutes, use multidose vial within 35 days; for reconstituted MMR vaccine, discard if not used within 8 hours. Do not freeze reconstituted vaccine.
Meningococcal, polysaccharide (MPSV4)	0.5 mL	SC	Posterolateral upper arm	23–25g, 5/8–3/4"	
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	0.5 mL	SC	Posterolateral upper arm	23–25g, 5/8–3/4"	
Varicella (Var)	0.5 mL	SC	Posterolateral upper arm	23–25g, 5/8–3/4"	Reconstitute just before using. Use only the diluent supplied with the vaccine. Inject 0.7 mL of diluent into the vial of lyophilized vaccine and gently agitate to mix thoroughly. Withdraw entire contents and inject the total volume (about 0.5 mL). Administer vaccine immediately after reconstitution. Discard if not used within 30 minutes after reconstitution. Do not freeze or refrigerate reconstituted vaccine.
Influenza, live, attenuated (LAIV)	0.5 mL (0.25 mL into each nostril)	Intranasal spray	Intranasal	NA	Consult package insert.

Please note: Always refer to the package insert included with each biologic for complete vaccine administration information. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) statement for the particular vaccine should be reviewed as well.